Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

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FOR EUR/SOV, OES/SCI/SEP AND ERDA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG TGEN UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR ENERGY AGREEMENT: CALL ON DEPUTY MINISTER

MAKSIMOV

REF: A. MOSCOW 3563; B. STATE 56486

- 1. DCM AND SCICOUNS PAID COURTESY CALL ON DEPUTY MINISTER A.I. MAKSIMOV MARCH 18 AND TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE QUESTION OF RECIPROCAL VISITS FOR GROUPS OF EXPERTS IN COAL, OIL AND GAS PRIOR TO THE SECOND MEETING OF THE JOINT ENERGY COMMISSION IN JULY.
- 2. MAKSIMOV AGREED IN PRINCIPLE ON THE DESIRABILITY OF TWO-WAY VISITS BY THE EXPERT GROUPS AND DIRECTED AN ASSISTANT TO TAKE THIS UP WITH THE MINISTRIES OF PETROLEUM, GAS AND COAL ON A DEPUTY MINISTER LEVEL. MAKSIMOV, HOWEVER, WONDERED WHETHER THERE IS SUFFICIENT TIME REMAINING BEFORE THE JOINT MEETING TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACCOMPLISH THE RECIPROCAL VISITS. MAKSIMOV ALSO NOTED

THAT THE SOVIET MINISTRIES INVOLVED IN ENERGY COOPERATION WOULD PREFER THAT THE VISITS OF THE TEMPORARY GROUPS BE MADE ON A "RECEIVING SIDE PAYS" BASIS IF POSSIBLE.

- 3. MAKSIMOV EXPLAINED THAT SOVIET MINISTRIES HAVE LIMITED AMOUNTS OF FOREIGN CURRENCY FOR SUCH TRIPS. WERE THEIR U.S. COUNTERPARTS ABLE TO AGREE TO A "RECEIVING SIDE PAYS" ARRANGEMENT FOR THESE PARTICULAR VISITS, IT WOULD CERTAINLY FACILITATE THE EXCHANGE OF THE EXPERTS GROUPS. MAKSIMOV SPECIFICALLY NOTED THAT THE MINISTRY OF THE COAL INDUSTRY WOULD PROBABLY BE UNABLE TO SNED A DELEGATION TO THE U.S. SOON BECAUSE IT APPARENTLY HAD NOT ACCOUNTED FOR THIS TRIP IN SETTING UP ITS ANNUAL FOREIGN CURRENCY BUDGET.
- 4. IF U.S. AGENCIES ARE ABLE TO AGREE TO "RECEIVING SIDE PAYS" ARRANGEMENT--AS A ONE-TIME EXCEPTION TO THE CONDITIONS OF THE ENERGY AGREEMENT--FOR THESE FIRST EXCHANGES OF EXPERTS, THIS MIGHT WELL PROVIDE THE NECESSARY STIMULUS TO THE SOVIETS TO COMPLETE THESE VISITS PRIOR TO THE SECOND JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON THIS POINT AT AN EARLY DATE.
- 5. DCM STRESSED U.S. COAL DELEGATION'S INTEREST IN SEEING COAL GASIFICATION OPERATIONS AND MEETING HAS BEEN ARRANGED WITH MINISTRY OF THE COAL INDUSTRY ON MARCH 21. STOESSEL

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